



September 24, 2003

Highlights of the Conference Report to Accompany H.R. 2555, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act for FY 2004

The Conference Report, H. Rept. 108-280, was filed on September 23, 2003.

Noteworthy

- H.R. 2555 represents the first annual appropriations bill providing funding for the new Department of Homeland Security (DHS).
- The Conference Report provides DHS with \$30.43 billion in total obligational authority. Of this total, \$29.41 billion is discretionary spending, which is \$1.6 billion more than the Administration's request and \$1.9 billion more than the Senate-passed bill.
- Unlike the Senate-passed bill, the Conference Report includes \$5.6 billion as an advance appropriation for the biodefense countermeasures initiative for FY 2004 through FY 2013, including \$890 million for FY 2004.
- The House passed the conference report on September 24 by a vote of 417-8.

Highlights

Title I – Departmental Management and Operations

Conference Report. The Conference report includes a total of \$445.4 million for Title I, which is \$134.7 million below the budget request of \$580.1 million, and \$123.8 million above the comparable FY 2003 appropriation of \$321.6 million.

Senate-Passed Bill. The Senate-passed bill included a total of \$494.3 million for Title I, which is \$85.8 million below the budget request of \$580.1 million, and \$296.9 million above the comparable FY 2003 appropriation of \$321.6 million.

Title II – Security, Enforcement, and Investigations

Conference Report. A total of \$19.13 billion is included in the Conference Report for Security, Enforcement, and Investigations, which is \$430 million above the budget request of \$18.7 billion, and \$1.77 billion below the comparable FY 2003 appropriation of \$20.9 billion.

- **Border Protection and Enforcement.** A total of \$8.7 billion is recommended for the defense of U.S. borders, as well as investigations and enforcement of immigration and customs laws. In direct appropriations the total includes:
 - \$330 million for the U.S. Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US VISIT) project;
 - \$4.9 billion for the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection; and
 - \$3.4 billion for the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.
- **Transportation Security Administration.** The Conference Report provides \$4.6 billion for the Transportation Security Administration, including offsetting collections. Included is:
 - \$400 million for procurement and installation of explosive detection systems; and
 - \$125 million for port security grants.
- **United States Coast Guard.** The Conference Report provides \$6.8 billion for the United States Coast Guard, including:
 - \$340 million for defense-related activities; and
 - \$668 million for the Integrated Deepwater Systems program.
- **United States Secret Service.** The Conference Report provides \$1.14 billion for the United States Secret Service.

Senate-Passed Bill. A total of \$8.2 billion was recommended for the defense of U.S. borders, as well as investigations and enforcement of immigration and customs

laws. Additionally, \$5.4 billion was included for the Transportation Security Administration, including \$2.07 billion in offsetting collections. The United States Coast Guard receives \$6.8 billion. The United States Secret Service receives \$1.12 billion.

Title III – Preparedness and Recovery

Conference Report. A total of \$13 billion is recommended to prepare the Nation's first responders for all hazards, and provide law enforcement training to the Federal Government agencies, including \$4.7 billion in advance appropriations for the biodefense countermeasures initiative. Of the total, the following is appropriated:

- \$4 billion for the Office for Domestic Preparedness, including:
 - \$1.7 billion for the State and local basic formula grant;
 - \$500 million for State and local law enforcement terrorism prevention grants; and
 - \$725 million for high-threat urban area discretionary grants;
 - \$750 million for firefighter assistance grants.
- \$10 million for the Counterterrorism Fund.
- \$9.1 billion for Emergency Preparedness and Response, including:
 - \$1.8 billion for disaster relief; and
 - \$5.6 billion as an advance appropriation for the biodefense countermeasures initiative for FY 2004 through FY 2013, including \$890 million for FY 2004.

Senate-Passed Bill. The Senate bill excluded appropriations for biodefense countermeasures since the FY 2004 budget resolution includes a reserve (mandatory spending) for this activity. Of the total, the following was appropriated: \$3.6 billion for the Office for Domestic Preparedness; \$20 million for the Counterterrorism Fund; and \$3.6 billion for Emergency Preparedness and Response.

Title IV – Research and Development, Training, Assessments, and Services

Conference Report. A total of \$2.2 billion is recommended for research and development, training, assessments, and services activities of the Department. Provisions include:

- **Citizenship and Immigration Services.** A total of \$1.8 billion is recommended for the operation of Citizenship and Immigration Services, including \$236 million in direct appropriations and \$1.6 billion in offsetting collections.

- **Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.** A total of \$192.8 billion is recommended for the operations of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, including \$37 million for construction.
- **Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection.** A total of \$839 million to identify and assess threats, map threat information against current vulnerabilities, issue warnings, and take preventive action, including:
 - \$267.5 million for critical infrastructure identification, assessments, and protection implementation; and
 - \$141 million for the National Communications System.
- **Science and Technology.** A total of \$918 million to support basic and applied research, development of prototypes, and procurement of systems to mitigate the effects of weapons of mass destruction.

Senate-Passed Bill. Comparable sections in the Senate-passed bill include: Citizenship and Immigration Services (\$229.4 million plus \$1.564 billion collected in fees); Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (\$201 million); Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (\$823.7 million); Science and Technology (\$871.4 million).